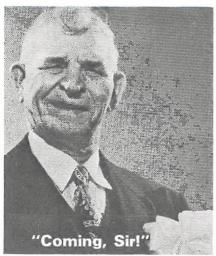
SECTION 1 — VOL. 78 - PART 1 FOR JUNE 20, 1976

Messages of the Love of God



A man was driving home one dark wet night. On the way he had to pass the toll-gate near the bridge. When he arrived at the gate he found it closed. So he shouted out with all his might to the man in the toll-house to open the gate, and a sleepy voice replied, "Coming, sir!"

After waiting a few minutes in the rain he called out again to the man, and he heard him say as before, "Coming, sir!" The rain was soaking him through, but the man did not come. Again and again he shouted and got the same sleepy reply, "Coming, sir!" At last he opened the toll-house door. What was his surprise to find the old man asleep by the stove! So he gave him a good shaking, and the old man woke up, rubbed his eyes and looked so astonished.

"Why did you keep me waiting all this time in the rain? You answered me and kept saying, 'Coming, sir!'
But you never came!'

"Did I, sir? I am very sorry, but I get so used to saying, 'Coming' that I must have said it in my sleep!"

How many are like the old man when it comes to the question of their soul's salvation. The Lord Jesus calls not only once, but twice, and perhaps often. Still they sleep on. Then the Lord has to send a great shaking to wake them up to their danger of going on unsaved and meeting God in their sins.

Let every dear reader come to the Saviour without a moment's delay. It is a solemn, and ofttimes fatal, thing to put Him off even though you intend to be saved. Open the door of your heart when He knocks, for He may go away and never come back again. Then your hope of salvation will be gone forever.

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor. 6:2



God Everywhere

A wayward boy had a good Christian mother who was very anxious about his soul's salvation.

"Mother," he said, "I am not going to be bothered with your prayers any longer; I will go to America and be rid of them."

"But, my boy," she said, "God is on the sea, and in America, and He hears my prayers for you."

Well, he came to this country and as they sailed into New York harbor some of the sailors told him that two well-known evangelists were holding meetings in that city. His conscience had been bothering him, however, and strangely enough the moment he landed he started for the place of meeting. There he surrendered to Christ and was joyfully saved. He became an earnest Christian worker and wrote his mother telling her that her prayers had been answered; that he had been saved, that he had found his mother's God.

How foolish to think that we can get away from God, for God is everywhere! "Thou God seest me."

The boy in our story thought he could get away from God, and yet how wonderful to think that God was tracking him down, not to punish and send him to hell (which all of us deserved), but that He might save his precious soul.

That is what God is seeking to do for you, dear young reader, if unsaved. He gave His beloved Son to die upon the cross for your sins. Are you trying to run away from God who wants to bless you?

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isa. 1:18.

FOR LITTLE FOLKS

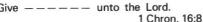
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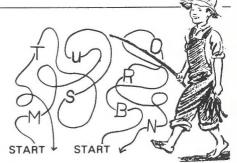
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BIBLE MESSAGE

Follow the lines to help you find the missing words in these texts.





"Ye ———— be ———— again."
John 3:7

But Jesus Can Save Me!



A general who became famous for his bravery, was a believing Christian.

Often he would take his little son into his arms and tell him about the Lord Jesus. One day he said to the little one:

"Would my little boy like to go to heaven?"

"Yes, Daddy."

"But how would you get there, where the holy God is; and your little heart is full of sin?"

"But all people are sinners, Dad-

dy!"

"That is true," said the father, "still God has said, that only those that are pure in heart, shall see Him, and you have no pure heart; how shall that come about?"

The boy became very sad, the sorrow could be seen in his face, and he began to weep, and laying his little head on his father's chest said:

"But, Daddy, Jesus can save me!"
He had confidence in the Saviour, for he had often heard that the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin. So he took refuge in the Lord Jesus and found peace.

Have you done that yet, dear reader?

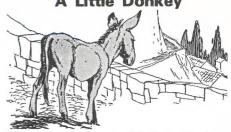
"Him that cometh to Me, I will in no wise cast out."

As soon as He becomes your Saviour, then He is also your Good Shepherd, who will lead you in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Show me Thy ways, O Lord; teach me Thy paths. Lead me in Thy truth, and teach me: for Thou art the God of my salvation; on Thee do I wait all the day.

Psa. 25:4, 5

A Little Donkey



There was once a wild little donkey, He had to be tied to a tree, But Jesus was thinking about him:

He said, "Go fetch him to Me."

And when they had brought him to

As quickly as ever they could, That restless, that wild little donkey

Was quiet, obedient and good.
When Jesus was riding upon him,

He went just the way that he should, A patient, submissive wee donkey, Made so by the blest Son of God.

And Jesus is able to make you
Whatever He wants you to be,
He loves you and longs to forgive you
And make you both happy and free.

"I Have Christ! What Want I More?"

In the heart of London City,
Mid the dwellings of the poor,
These bright golden words were
uttered —

"I have Christ! what want I more?"
By a lonely dying woman,

Stretched upon an attic floor,

Having not one earthly comfort, — "I have Christ! what want I more?"

He who heard them, ran to fetch her Something from the world's great store.

It was needless — she died, saying, "I have Christ! what want I more?"

But her words will live forever -

I repeat them o'er and o'er, God delights to hear me saying, — "I have Christ! what want I more?"

Look away from earth's attractions; All earth's joys will soon be o'er; Rest not, 'til each heart exclaimeth,

"I have Christ! what want I more?"

A
Night
To Be
Remembered

One day the Lord Jesus sent Peter and John on an errand together. He told them to go into the city, and a man should meet them carrying a pitcher of water; they were to follow him into the house he went into, and to say to the master of the house, "The Master says to thee, Where is the guest-chamber where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?" "And," said Jesus, "he will shew you a large upper room furnished: there make ready."

The two disciples did as they were told, and they found everything just as the Lord Jesus had said. Then they made ready the feast in the large upper room which the master of the house showed them.

They knew just what to provide, for no doubt they had come up to Jerusalem to keep the Passover year by year since their boyhood. must be the lamb roast with fire, and the bitter herbs, to remind them of the time when God said, "When I see the blood, I will pass over you," and the destroying angel passed over the houses of the Israelites and spared the firstborn because of the blood sprinkled on the door-posts and lintels. There must be unleavened bread too. for the first Passover had been eaten in haste, staff in hand, all ready to leave Egypt.

God had never forgotten that night, and He did not want His people to forget it; *they* looked backward over the years as they kept the feast, but for God it spoke of the time which was coming, when Jesus Himself should be the Passover Lamb.

Peter and John made everything ready, and then, when the hour was

come, Jesus came and sat down with His twelve disciples.

That feast meant very much to the Lord Jesus. He told them that He had longed to eat it with them before He suffered.

"And he took bread, and gave thanks, and broke it, and gave unto them, saying, This is My body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of Me."

Did Jesus really mean that His body was about to be broken for them as that bread was broken? Yes, He did. He was about to give His body to be nailed to the cross and pierced with a spear, and it was for them, for all who believe on Him, and He asks us to break the bread and eat it for a remembrance of Him.

He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you," and He told them all to drink out of it.

It is nearly two thousand years since the Lord Jesus suffered on the cross, but He knows that there are still those who meet together every first day of the week to "break bread" in remembrance of Him. And those who do it, find that this remembrance is sweeter and more precious than anything the world can give.

Saved Three Times

A man said he had been saved on the water, in the water, and under the water. First when on board ship, he had found Christ as his Saviour. Second, when about to drown he had been rescued. Third, as a diver, the Lord had preserved him from danger. "He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." Heb. 7:25

MESSAGES OF THE LOVE OF GOD

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VOL. 78 - PART 4 FOR JUNE 27, 1976

Messages of the Love of God



Little Mary, The Heroine

It was late autumn in New Brunswick, and three little children had gone for a walk along the beach — Mary, the eldest, only six, and her little brother and sister, Johnny and Beth.

The sun had already gone down in the West and, as the shadows of evening began to steal across land and sea, the little ones hastened their steps toward home. But night came on fast, and feeling sure they could not make it home in the darkness, Mary decided to make a little nest of seaweed for the tired little travelers and spend the night there.

Mary gathered seaweed which she stowed away in a sheltered nook in some rocks and so made a bed for her little brother and sister. Fearing the cold of the night might be too much for them she took off most of her own clothing and covered over her little charges. She then went off to gather more seaweed to lay on top of them. After considerable effort in this way, the poor little girl fell down with cold and exhaustion.

Meanwhile at home their father and mother waited wondering where their dear children were. At length they roused their neighbors and search parties went out to look for the missing ones. All night they searched without success. Then in the early morning light in the sheltered nook, they found little Johnny and Beth, numbed with cold, but otherwise all right. Not far away, however, was the cold, lifeless form of their little saviour. Mary had sacrificed her life to save her little brother and sister from certain death.

Does not this recall the love of the Lord Jesus to our hearts? Mary had given her all to save those she loved so dearly. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13. But the Lord Jesus went far beyond this, for He laid down His life for us when we were His enemies.

"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son; much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."

Rom. 5: 10.

He loved the ones for whom He died— Not ours to question why; But ours to know the love of Him, Who came to die!

His is the loving voice we hear That leads us to the sky. We bless Thee, Lord, who came to earth For us to die!

Memory "For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the Verse world; but that the world through Him might be saved."

John 3:17



Little Roy was a very sick baby in Elmira. Weary with watching over her little one Mother had come downstairs for a short rest. She heard the voice of little four-year-old Esther in the hall talking to someone. Curious to know whom she was talking to Mother paused and peeked in at the half open door.

Little Esther had pulled a chair up in front of the telephone on the wall and was standing on it with the receiver pressed against her ear. The child's earnestness showed that she was in no playful mood, and this was the conversation the mother heard as she

stood there, her eyes filled with tears. Esther was carrying on both sides of the conversation, as if she were repeating the answers:

"Hello!"

"Who's there?"

"Is God there?"

"Yes."

"Is the Lord Jesus there?"

"Yes."

"Lord Jesus, our little Roy is sick, and we ask Thee to make him better. Will You now?"

A silence followed and then the request was repeated. Finally the answer came, "Yes."

Then little Esther put the receiver back on the hook, clambered down from the chair, and with radiant smiles ran to Mother who caught her up in her arms.

That very day little Roy, whose life had been despaired of, took a change for the better and got well again.

Can a little child like me

Pray to Jesus fittingly? Yes, O yes, He loves to hear

Prayers from lips of children dear.

I will need His help today

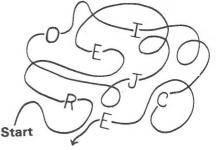
In the things I do and say.

FOR LITTLE FOLKS

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A BIBLE MESSAGE



"_____ in the Lord."

Phil. 4:4

God Sees Us Always



"No one will see us, Janie,
I think we need not fear" —
And Charlie opened the cupboard
And gazed at some apples there.
By his side was his little sister,
A child of six years old,
Her face like the summer sunshine,
That shone midst her locks of gold.

The children looked at each other —
The apples were fair to see;
"How nice they would be," said
Janie.

"Just look at them, one, two, three! How rosy and fresh and juicy, They look on this sultry day; I'm so tired and hot with playing; Let us take one while we may."

"Yes, we'll take the *largest*," said Charlie,

As he gazed at its rosy hue;
"It will not be much between us;
But we'd better not take two."
Then he laid his hand upon it,
And turned it o'er and o'er;
How easy 'twould be to take it,
And fasten the cupboard door!

Now, just at this very moment, The sunlight bright and fair, Stole in at the open window, In all its beauty rare. It shone on the rosy apples,

It shone on the painted floor, It shone on the tempted children, By the open cupboard door.

Then it seemed to say to Janie,
As its lovely radiance grew,
"There is One who sees you always,
Whatever you may do.
His holy eye looks on you;
Nothing can you hide from Him,

So if no one else had seen you, He would have known your sin. "He sees in both light and darkness;
He knows every word you say;
He's looking at you and Janie
By the cupboard door today.
He knows you are sorely tempted,
Yet there is no need to fall;
Run away from the rosy apple,
And tell your dear mother all."

Then sweet little Janie trembled —
Her breath now came thick and fast,
While tears to her blue eyes started;

And she saw her sin at last.

Then she drew away her brother, And firmly closed the door. "Charlie," she said. "God sees us

"Charlie," she said, "God sees us; We will look at them no more.

"We will go and find dear Mother, And tell her what we've done; She'll pray with us, I know, Charlie,

When we tell her why we've come. We'll tell her how we were tempted;

So together now we'll run,

And she'll ask that God may pardon For the sake of His dear Son."

How full was the mother's bosom,
As they knelt down by her side,
How happy were Janie and Charlie
As she told them of Him who died—
Told them of One who could wash
them

Whiter than the purest snow, And He is waiting to bless them, Because He does love them so.

"My dears," she said, as she kissed

Before they started away,
"I hope you will try to remember
The lesson you've learned today.

We are open to temptation,
And our hearts are prone to sin,
But the Lord will keep you safely

But the Lord will keep you safely
If you only look to Him.

"And now, you may have the apples; I intended them all for you.

Go, sit on the lawn and eat them, And soon I will come there too; When Father comes home this

When Father comes home this evening,

And we have our usual prayer, We'll read of Nathaniel's fig tree, And how Jesus saw him there."

(Gen. 16:13; John 1:48)

Upward — At Noon



Where do the hands of your clock point at noon? "Up," you say. That's right, "Upward at noon!"

I wonder, do you ever think of lifting up your heart to God in prayer at noon? Don't you think the upward pointing hands of the clock are a good reminder? The lifting up of hands is connected with praying in the Bible. David said, "At noon will I pray." It is written of Daniel that he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God. "He heareth us." 1 John 5:14



How very much Jesus loved His disciples! "Having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end." He knew that the Father had given all things into His hands, He knew that He was come from God and was going to God, but at that last supper He got up from the table and laid aside His garments, and took a towel and girded Himself. Then He took a basin of water and began to wash the feet of His disciples, wiping them with the towel with which He was girded.

Peter must have watched his Lord with wondering eyes; and when it came to his turn he could not keep silence any longer. He said, "Lord, dost thou wash my feet?"

Jesus answered, "What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter."

Peter said, "Thou shalt never wash my feet."

Jesus said to him, "If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with Me."

Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head."

Jesus said to him, "He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all."

Why did Jesus say, "But not all?" It was because the traitor Judas was there; he had gone about with Jesus; he was even numbered among the apostles, but his heart was still black and sin-stained in God's holy sight. He had never, like Peter, fallen down at the feet of Jesus and owned himself a sinful man, and been washed and forgiven.

After Jesus had washed their feet and had taken His garments and sat down again, He told them why He had done this. He said, "Ye call Me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am: If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you."

Jesus was going to leave His dearly loved disciples. He was going back to His Father in heaven; but they would still be left down here, and even though their hearts had been washed white and clean they would be walking through a world where their feet would get weary and travel-stained. He wanted them to love one another so much that they would take care to wash one another's feet, so that things of this world might not hinder them from following Him where He was going to be with the Father. Let us never forget those words of Jesus, "I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you."

MESSAGES OF THE LOVE OF GOD

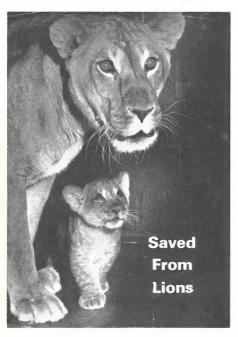
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SECTION 1 - VOL. 78 - PART 1 JULY 4, 1976

Messages of the Love of God



Perisi was a little African girl. She had come to the Bible classes and there heard the sweet story of Jesus and His love in dying for sinners everywhere. Perisi believed that He died for her, and she trusted Him as her Saviour.

Her mother, however, was not at all pleased and beat the little girl for going to the Bible school. She turned her over to the witch doctor thinking he would make her afraid and give up her new religion. But Perisi did not cease to love her Saviour, and to memorize Bible verses, and sing the sweet Christian hymns she had learned.

At last her mother took her into the forest and tied her to a tree. She hoped the lions would come and frighten her belief in Jesus out of her.

When her mother left she said, "You are a worthless girl to me - good only for the lions."

Throughout the long black night little Perisi remained there and prayed. He who has said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee," watched over her all night long. The next morning at dawn, a Christian boy found her still tied to the tree. There were lions' tracks all around, but little Perisi was unharmed. She saw the eyes of the great beasts shine in the darkness, but not one of them had come within fifteen feet of her. Perisi remembered how God had shut the lions' mouths and delivered Daniel, and she prayed that He would deliver her also. All her fear had gone.

Perisi never forgot that night and many, many times since did she thank her Saviour that she could experience His love and care for her in such a remarkable way.

"He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust: . . Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night." Psa. 91:4, 5.



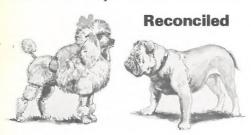
The veerie is a thrush and has a beautiful song. But one thing about him that makes him most appreciated by bird lovers is that he sings in the rain. The rain will silence most other songbirds, but the veerie sings on.

Memory "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of your-Verse selves: it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2:8 A dear old Christian lady was an invalid. She had been a shut-in for many months. One day another Christian called to see her. She said: "I have a lovely thrush that sings outside my window every day. In the early morning he serenades me, and in the twilight he sings his evening song. But what I like most about him is that he sings in the rain!"

And this is what the Christian should seek grace to do - to sing not only in the sunshine, when all is going fine, but in the dark and gloomy day as well. The Lord's love is unchanging, He is ever near and is able "to give songs in the night."

"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to

the Lord." Eph. 5:19.



A Christian friend was one day taking a walk along a pier that went far out into the sea. Some distance out he came upon two dogs growling at each other so fiercely that it seemed a fight was inevitable. One dog was bigger than the other, but they both bared their teeth and snarled at each other in a dreadful manner. My friend moved out to the extreme edge of the pier in order to get around the angry beasts.

By and by when he returned, the two dogs were nowhere to be seen. But looking over the edge of the pier he was surprised to find both had fallen into the water below. How different things were now! The dogs were both swimming for shore, and the big dog was swimming along side the smaller one as if to make sure he got safely in. Soon they reached the shore and walked up the sandy beach together - no longer enemies, but friends! They were reconciled!

When man sinned, sin put distance between him and God, for God is holy and cannot have sin in His presence. Not only are we sinners, but there is in our hearts enmity (or hatred) against God. Man proved he was an enemy of God, for when God sent Jesus, His beloved Son, into this world, man put Him to death.

However, God still loves man in spite of this enmity toward Him. He sent His Son into this world to save sinners such as we. Those who trust in Christ as their Saviour not only have all their sins put away, but that enmity against God is gone too. They have a new nature which delights to please God, and they can say, "We love Him because He first loved us."

Man needs to be reconciled to God. When the Lord Jesus was on earth, "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself" (2 Cor. 5:19). But the world would not be reconciled to God, and the day is drawing near when God will "judge the world in righteousness" (Acts 17:31).

Still God is seeking to save and bless sinners, and the Word says, "Be ye reconciled to God" (2 Cor. 5:20).





Ting was just a poor uneducated Chinese laborer; he worked hard for little pay. But a missionary spoke to Ting one day about the Saviour. Ting believed what he heard and was wonderfully saved.

With a face that radiated his newfound joy Ting would say: "I am nothing; just a poor coolie. I have no money, and no schooling. But in my heart I have an unable-to-speak-it-out

joy!"

When the Lord Jesus was here on earth, He went about doing good and making people happy. Would you let Him make you happy, dear reader? If you open your heart's door and let Him in, He will first cleanse it from all sin and then come to dwell there. This is true and everlasting happiness.

A Japanese Thief Converted



A chaplain in a Japanese prison noticed one of the prisoners, named Maki, always carried a New Testament with him. "Tell me," he said one day, "how you happen to have that Book." And this was his story.

He had been a burglar. One day he and a companion made plans to rob a missionary school. In the dark of night they entered the building by a kitchen window and went upstairs. As they went Maki heard voices.

"What is that?" he whispered to his

companion.

"It is somebody praying," replied his friend laughing. "They are afraid and are asking God to protect them."

Soon they saw the girls on their knees praying. Maki grabbed one young girl's coat but she looking up calmly said,

"Please don't take my coat; my mother made it for me. Please take this Book instead and read it," and she handed him the New Testament.

The robbers threw the Book aside and then in fear of being caught, they

quickly left and went their ways.

For three days Maki stayed indoors. At last he ventured out to visit his partner in crime. But he was surprised by a policeman waiting to arrest him. His friend was already in jail.

The next day Maki appeared before the police chief in the presence of some of the girls from the mission school.

"Do you recognize this?" the chief asked him, showing him the little Book he had thrown aside the night of the robbery.

"These girls heard of your arrest and they have brought the Book to offer it to you again. You are guilty and will go to prison. But this Book will lead you to repentence. These girls are Christians and treat their enemies with kindness."

Maki accepted the Book this time and thanked the girls. But he knew nothing of Jesus. The convicted thief went to prison taking the New

Testament with him.

When Mr. Hara, the chaplain, heard Maki's story, he told him of the Saviour's love for sinners. Maki knew that one day he would have to stand before a holy God to be judged. But now he learned that that same God had provided a way of escape for him. His Son, Jesus, had died for him and borne the punishment he deserved for his sins. Maki believed, he accepted God's offer of mercy and was saved. With the chaplain's help, he learned to read his Testament by himself.

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Isa.

and then in lear of being caught, they 1:18
Try to fill in the missing letters and complete this gospel text.
C N N N N Y N
T T L R N R
HOVO AON OD
W G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G
"All things are ready: COME." Matthew 11

Bible Talks



Deuteronomy 33:1-5

We now come to the last words of Moses and it is precious to see how they all speak of grace and of Israel's future blessing in the land.

In Jacob's dying utterances (Gen. 49) when he has his sons before him, he looks at them in a very different aspect. He speaks of blessing, but he also recalls to them their sin. Moses was about to die, too, and how well he knew the character of the people he had led throughout those forty long years. But he looks at them from the heights of God's thoughts and purposes, in contrast to the actual history of the nation in its sin and failure as Jacob sees them. Moses looks on to that coming day when a king shall reign in righteousness and his people shall be the objects of the richest grace and unmingled blessing.

Jacob recalls Reuben's moral failure, and Simeon and Levi's cruelty. Thus corruption and violence, the two dominant forms of evil that have marked man's history in this world, would characterize the early history of Israel as a nation and would sweep on to the end and "befall the people" in the last days. Jacob gives the sad sinful actings of his sons, but Moses rises above all man's ruin and failure and gives us the actings of divine grace.

In our chapter Moses sees the Lord coming from Sinai with His people, His glory flooding the wilderness, from Seir on the east, from Mount Paran on the north and west, and His angelic hosts around Him. "From His right hand went forth a fiery law for them."

"He loved the people(s)." This really goes beyond Israel, because when Israel is blessed, the world at large will be brought into blessing, too.

"All His saints are in Thy hand." Not only does God love His people, but they are in His hand. What a safe place to be in! How precious the promise of John 10, where the Lord Jesus says, "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me: and I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand." There we are eternally secure, eternally held by those mighty hands, while "underneath are the everlasting arms." Deut. 33:27.

"And they sat down at Thy feet; every one shall receive of Thy words." At His feet! This is the place of blessing. How precious a privilege to sit at His feet and hear His words, like Mary of Bethany, of whom the Lord said, "She hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." Luke 10:42. What a treasure the words of the Lord! - more precious than thousands of gold and silver.

Low at Thy feet, Lord Jesus,
This is the place for me.
There have I learned deep lessons Truths that have set me free.

Just on the threshold! oh, why not come in, Leaving the mazes of darkness and sin? Forward the light, and the glory divine; Backward the dangers, and woes that were

Just on the threshold, and joy near at hand; Yonder's the gleam of Immanuel's land! Refuge and rest are now offered to thee: Sin or salvation—oh, which shall it be? Just on the threshold—and Christ calls to thee!

thine.

Come! with the pardoned forever to be! Just on the threshold—why linger so long? Sing, with the ransomed, Eternity's song!

MESSAGES OF THE LOVE OF GOD

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Messages of the Love of God



Man Overboard

One day Hudson Taylor the missionary was traveling up the river in a Chinese junk. On board was a Chinese friend named Peter who had visited Europe and many other lands. Peter had often heard the gospel preached, but he had never surrendered to the Lord Jesus. Hudson often encouraged him to put his trust in the Saviour. Peter was greatly moved, even to tears, by what he heard, but made no decision.

Hudson had gone into the cabin for a few minutes when suddenly he was startled by a splash and a loud cry. Running upon deck he saw that Peter

had fallen overboard.

In an instant Hudson sprang to the mast, let down the sail and leaped overboard in hopes of finding his friend. But alas, the water had closed over poor Peter.

Looking around in an agony of suspense Hudson saw a fishing boat nearby with a drag net. It would be just the thing to save Peter.

"Come," he cried, hope rising in his heart; "come and drag here; a man is

drowning."

"It is not convenient" was the

callous reply.

"Don't talk of convenience," cried Hudson in agony. "A man is drowning."

"We are busy fishing, and can't

come."

"Never mind your fishing; I'll give you more money than many days fishing will bring; only come at once!"

"How much money will you give

us?"

"Come at once or it will be too late. I will give you \$5.00."

"We wouldn't do it for that; give us

\$20.00 and we will come."

"I don't have that much, but I'll give you all I have," said Hudson. "How much may that be?"

"About \$14.00."

At last, but ever so slowly, the fishing boat was paddled over and they let down the net. In less than a minute the body of Peter was found and brought on board. However, all efforts to revive him were without success. It was too late; poor Peter had drowned. But even while Hudson and others worked over him to try and restore breathing, the callous fishermen actually clamored for their money and became indignant at the delay.

How vast the difference between those fishermen and that of our blessed Saviour. He alone knows the value of a soul. Not all the gold in all the world can redeem a lost soul. "Without the shedding of blood is no remission." Heb. 9:22.

"Ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, . . . but with the precious blood of

Christ." 1 Peter 1:18, 19.

How sad to think of poor Peter dying perhaps unsaved. Dear unsaved reader, do not put off the salvation of your soul for one moment. "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor. 6:2.

Abu The Syrian



Abu lived in northern Syria some years ago. He had come in contact with the gospel and became a happy Christian. Then his troubles began.

He was severely persecuted for his faith by his family and countrymen. His father-in-law took his bride away from him. The townsfolk tore down his new house. Then when he refused to give up his belief in the wonderful Book of God, they led him out of town and tied him to a pile of wood intending to set it on fire. At the last they gave him a chance to say his last words.

Instead of cursing his enemies and weeping, Abu knelt down and prayed for his persecutors. Then a miracle took place. The power of God was felt by all. One by one the angry mob left him and stole quietly back to their homes. They left Abu completely alone and yet not alone, for God was with His dear child.

"Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven." Luke 6:22, 23.

"Why Don't You Love Jesus?"



A Sunday school teacher had been seeking to lead her scholars to the Lord, and she had told them how they too might become missionaries at home and bring others to the Saviour. One day the smallest came to her and said: "I asked some children to come with me to Sunday school, but they said their father was an infidel."

She wanted to know what an infidel was, and the teacher went on to explain to her that he was one who didn't believe in God nor the Bible. One day, when she was on her way to school, this infidel was coming out of the post office with his mail in his hand when the child ran up to him and said, "Why don't you love Jesus?"

If it had been a man, the infidel would have resented it; but he did not know what to do with the child, and with tears in her eyes she asked him again, "Oh! please, tell me, why don't

you love Jesus?"

He went on to his office, but he felt as if every letter he opened read, "Why don't you love Jesus?" He attempted to write, with the same result; every letter seemed to ask him, "Why don't you love Jesus?" He threw down his pen in despair, and left his office, but he could not get rid of

the question. It was asked by a still small voice within, and as he walked along it seemed as if the very ground and the very heavens whispered to him, "Why don't you love Jesus?"

At last he went home, and there it seemed as if his own children asked him the same question. So he said to his wife, "I will go to bed early tonight," thinking to sleep it away. But when he laid his head on the pillow, it seemed as if the pillow whispered it to him. So he got up about midnight, and said, "I can find out where Christ contradicts Himself, and I'll search it out and prove Him a liar."

Well, he got up and turning to the Gospel of John, he read on from the beginning until he came to the words, "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish,

but have everlasting life." John 3:16. What love! he thought; and at last

What love! he thought; and at last the infidel's heart was stirred. He could find no reason for not loving Jesus, and down he got on his knees and prayed. Earnest were his prayers that went up to God for forgiveness, and before the morning sun flooded the countryside, the once hardened heart of that infidel was melted with the sunshine of God's love. He saw what a sinner he had been, but he saw too that Jesus had died for such as he. Peace and love now filled his heart.

I challenge any one on the face of the earth to find a reason for not loving Christ. "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain." O unsaved friend, if you knew Him, you would have no wish to find a reason for not loving Him. He is "the chiefest among ten thousand," "He is altogether lovely." Song of Solomon 5:10, 16.

FOR LITTLE FOLKS

5	7	6	8	7	5	9	8	6	9	8	6	5	9	7	9	5	7	6	8	6	9	5	7	6	9	8	7	9	5
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R	Ε	Т	Ε	Т	I	F	Α	R	T	Н	Ν	R	S	Т	1	Т	R	Н	Ν	Н	Ü	0	1	Е	S	Е	Ε	M	W
8	5	7	6	9	7	5	8	6	9	7	9	6	5	8	7	9	6	8	7	9	7	6	8	9	6	8	7	5	9
L	Т	Е	0	Т	Α	ļ	D	R	Н	R	E	D	Ν	F	U	W	0	0	Ν	Α	Т	F	R	Υ	T	M	0	Т	0
7	9	8	6	9	7	5	8	6	5	6	9	8	5	9	7	8	6	9	7	5	8	7	9	5	6	7	5	8	6
M	F	Е	Н	L	Е	Н	0	Е	Ε	L	Υ	L	L	1	0	0	0	N	G	0	R	0	G	R	R	D	D	D	D
There is a hidden message from the Bible for you in this diagram on the left, if you are between the ages of five and nine years. Starting at the left of the top row, find all the times your age is shown and put down the letters under- neath in each case.																													
Try to fill in the missing letters and complete this gospel text. F																													

Romans 3

"WE BELIEVE THAT JESUS DIED AND ROSE AGAIN." 1 Thess. 4:14.

Bible Talks



Deuteronomy 33:6, 7

No doubt the blessing of the tribes which Moses foretold had its partial fulfillment when they possessed the land under Joshua. But this was only a shadow of the fullness which his eve of faith saw in the distance. fullness of blessing could not be poured out while Israel was striving under the law, but in that future day, because of the work of Christ for them on the cross, God's grace will rise above all man's sin and failure. His gracious goodness and unmingled blessing will flow out to all the tribes of Israel and to Gentiles as well.

There is no mention here of Reuben's failure. Instead his sentence is exchanged for blessing. Reuben live, and not die"; he would be a numerous people. We can apply some of these things to ourselves, for what were we apart from grace? We deserved to die, but "Christ died for us," and now we "live through Him" (1 John 4:9). This is the grand starting point of all blessing with us. Nor will the redeemed of the Lord be few in that day, for God is "bringing many sons unto glory" (Heb. 2:10).

We do not get the order of the tribes here according to nature; Simeon is not mentioned at all. But his guilty connection with Levi in cruelty and violence is no more. Little is recorded of Simeon as a tribe after they entered the land. They may have been scattered among the other tribes according to Jacob's prophecy (Gen. 49:5-7) but they are mentioned in Revelation 7:7 when a remnant of them shall be sealed for blessing. Then when the land is re-divided in the millennium, they will have their place and portion.

Judah is next, brought forward as the tribe which would take Reuben's. the firstborn's, place. We know the Jews have long had a separate place and have suffered much from their enemies. But in the coming day Judah and the rest of the tribes will be brought together and joined in one people. "Hear, Lord, the voice of Judah, and bring him unto his people . . . and be Thou a help to him from his enemies."

In Reuben we have the setting aside of the first man; in Judah the bringing in of the Second Man, Christ; for of Judah, Christ was born after the flesh. He is the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright and Morning Star; "the chiefest among ten thousand . . . the altogether lovely One." (Song of Sol. 5:10, 16.)

Thus we can see God had Christ before Him in choosing Judah. "Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: . . . The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto Him shall the gathering of the people be." (Gen. 49:8-12). That gathering together of the people around Christ on earth is drawing near. But before then there will be that great gathering together in the air. "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout," and call all His redeemed ones from earth to be around Himself in their heavenly home forever.

Behold the Saviour at the door! He gently knocks-has knocked before; Has waited long-is waiting still; You use no other friend so ill.

Admit Him, for the human breast Ne'er entertained so kind a guest; No mortal tongue their joys can tell, With whom He condescends to dwell.

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Messages of the Love of God



The Loss of the Lusitania

ON SATURDAY, May 1, 1915, the giant Cunard liner, Lusitania, one of the largest and fastest ships afloat in her day, sailed out of New York harbor with 2000 souls aboard.

It was wartime, but most of the passengers, seemingly confident that the great swift vessel could elude and outrun any enemy underwater craft, were having luncheon. As she neared the coast of Ireland, suddenly, without warning two torpedoes, fired from a German submarine, crashed into her starboard side, and in a very short time the huge ship sank with a frightful loss of 1400 lives.

Harold Boulton, a young Englishman, was one of those who were saved. When he heard that the ship had been struck by torpedoes, he quickly put on a life belt, jumped into the ocean, and started swimming away from the ship. From the water he saw the Lusitania sink. Later Harold was saved by some fishermen who pulled him out of

the water and took him to England. He wrote:

When the lifeboats were just about to be lowered, I saw Captain Turner appear on the bridge, shouting loudly and waving his hands. "Don't lower the boats!" he called at the top of his voice. "The ship can't sink. She is all right. Kindly assist in getting the women out of the boats and off the upper deck!"

I believe that the loss of many lives is chargeable to the captain's order to empty the boats, for later there was not time to reload them. I saw that the second class passengers had ignored the captain's orders and were loading the lifeboats; they had launched four of them. This is why, I think, more second class than first class passengers were saved.

The captain made a terrible mistake. How sorry he was later that he told passengers on the Lusitania they were safe, when they were not.

Clergymen, preachers, teachers and parents can make terrible mistakes too. Oftentimes they tell people they are safe when they are not. Do not rest, dear reader, in the thought that you are saved from judgment, and saved for heaven, until you have God's word for it.

"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth Jesus as Lord, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

"Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Rom. 10:9.13.

Harold Boulton also wrote:

I asked a woman and her daughter if there was anything I could do for them, and the mother replied, "Not a thing, thank you. We're not going to get excited, but remain calm and stay here. The captain says the sink." Lusitania cannot they were both drowned.

Why were they drowned? Because they thought they did not need to be saved. But they did need to be saved, and so does every child

of Adam's fallen race. God says in His Word:

"All have sinned. . . ." and "the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 3:23; 6:23). "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3).

This world is a sinking ship, but Christ is God's Lifeboat — large enough to save all who will come and put their trust in Jesus. Countless thousands have left the sinking ship of this world and are safe aboard, safe in Christ and on their way to heaven's happy shore. There's still room for more.

But all who remain in the world's doomed ship will surely go down with all their sins into death's dark waters and eternal judgment.

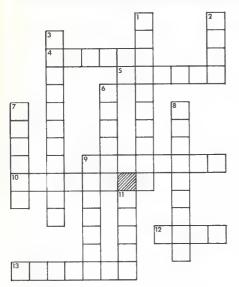
"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man; but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov. 14:12.

Come from darkness into light, From the way that seemeth

Come and start for heaven tonight! Be in time!

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16:31.

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE



The Pentateuch and Historical Books

Memorize the books of the Bible and their order so that you can readily turn to a passage of Scripture. This crossword covers the first 17 books called the Pentateuch and the Historical Books.

DOWN:

- 1. The two books before EZRA.
- 2. The book before NEHEMIAH.
- 3. The second book before JUDGES.
- 6. The third book after NUMBERS.
 7. The two books after RUTH.
 8. The book before NUMBERS.
 9. The second book before IOSHU

- The second book before JOSHUA.
 The two books after SAMUEL.

ACROSS:

- The second book after EZRA.
- The sixth book in the Bible.
- The book before ESTHER.
- The book before LEVITICUS.
- The book after JUDGES.
- The first book in the Bible.

How God Saved Hudson Taylor



NO ONE thought that the careless boy would later go to China to tell others how to be saved. For from the age of 11 when Hudson was at school, he grew more and more careless of his own need of being saved. He seemed to want fun and money more than God's salvation.

Often he had tried to make himself a Christian, and failed of course. Then he began to think he never could be saved, and thought he might as well enjoy as much of the world as he could, so there was no hope for him beyond the grave.

When 15, young Hudson met some men who claimed that the Bible was not true. He quickly accepted their infidel reasonings, only too thankful for some hope of escape from the doom which, if the Bible were true, awaited the ungodly. Hudson was smart in school, but he was stupid to think he could escape hell by pretending it were not real.

However, Hudson's mother and sister were praying earnestly for his salvation, and God answers

prayer.

One afternoon he was alone and picked up a little book which he read. It made his sinful and dangerous state very real to him. If he died that afternoon, he knew he would be in hell. He read on until he noticed the words, "The finished work of Christ." He thought about the Lord Jesus on the cross saying, just before He died, "It is finished!"

"What was finished?" Hudson asked himself. He understood then

that the Lord Jesus had paid his debt of sin when He died, and God does not ask anything more.

What was there left for him to do? The answer was, "There was nothing left to be done, but to accept this Saviour and His salvation, and praise Him forevermore."

Before Hudson had finished reading the little book, he was saved...

a sinner saved by grace.

"It is finished!" yes, indeed, Finished every jot. Sinner, this is all you need, Tell me, is it not?

Sandra's ABC



"GRANDPA," said little Sandra one day as she climbed up on his knee, "do you know the A B C of the gospel?"

"What do you know about it?"

asked Grandpa.

"Well," replied Sandra, "I'll tell you what I learned in Sunday school. A means 'All have sinned,' and that means you too, Grandpa. B means, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.' Did you ever do that?" she went on. "Then C means, 'Come unto Me.' Did you ever come to Jesus, Grandpa?"

Poor old Grandpa knew he hadn't many days left to live and he felt his need of the Saviour. But it was the word of God from the lips of his little grand-daughter that went to his heart and he came to the Lord

at last.

"Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near." Isa. 55:6.

Bible Talks



Deuteronomy 33:8-11

IN MOSES' blessing the tribes of Israel Levi comes next.

"And of Levi he said, Let thy Thummim and thy Urim be with thy holy one, whom thou didst prove at Massah, and with whom thou didst strive at the waters of Meribah;

"Who said unto his father and to his mother, I have not seen him; neither did he acknowledge his brethren, nor knew nis own children: for they have observed Thy word, and kept Thy

covenant."

Levi means "joined"; in an earlier day he had been joined with his brother Simeon in a dark, cruel deed of murder, and this Jacob never forgot, for he spoke of it on his death bed. But since then grace had wrought in Levi and his history is marked by outstanding faithfulness to the Lord. Once in the darkness of nature his feet had been "swift to shed blood," but now under grace his feet were swift to follow the cloud in the wilderness.

When Moses came down from the mount and found Israel worshiping the golden calf, he cried "Who is on the Lord's side?" It was then that the tribe of Levi separated themselves unto Moses. The Lord's glory meant more to them than even father or mother, and they "joined" with the Lord and His servant Moses for the execution of righteous judgment upon idolatry.

Israel had lost sight of the fact that Moses was alive on high in the presence of God for them and they fell into idolatry; "the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." What a picture we have here of Christendom today. The professing church has largely

forgotten that Christ is alive and on high in the presence of God interceding for His own. How many have gone into idolatry; how many also are seeking to find satisfaction in worldly pleasures! May the Lord preserve us from such forgetfulness, but keep us instead with our eyes fixed on Him, waiting and watching for His coming in the air.

As a reward for their faithfulness God had chosen the tribe of Levi for the priesthood and for the service of the tabernacle. Moses requests that the Urim and Thummim, meaning "lights and perfections," might be always with them. We are not told what they were, but they were put into the breastplate of the high priest, and by them God answered questions. They are lost to Israel now, but when His people are restored Christ Himself will take the place of the Urim and Thummim of old. How He delights to prove Himself the answer to all the needs and problems of His people now!

Levi was to teach Israel God's law, to burn incense and offer burnt offerings unto the Lord. Thus Levi's service is ours. It is our happy privilege to bring the Word of God before others, but best of all to present Christ before the Father in the service of worship

and praise.

The blessing of Levi reminds us of the Lord's words: "Every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive an hundred fold, and shall inherit everlasting life." Matt. 19:29.

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Messages of the Love of God



Demetrio's Conversion

DEMETRIO WAS a sergeant in the Bolivian Army during the Chaco War between Bolivia and Paraguay. As a soldier, Demetrio was a man of courage, but he was also a thoroughly ungodly fellow and he and his friends spent much of their spare time dancing and drinking.

One day the Bolivian troops were ordered to fix bayonets and storm a Paraguayan fort. A fierce battle ensued and Demetrio fell badly wounded with six bullets in his body. Taken out of action to a field hospital behind the lines, he was given blood transfusions which saved his life.

From there he was sent to the

main hospital in Potosi, the capital, and thanks to the care of the surgeons who attended him, after considerable time he was able to walk again.

The doors of the hospital were heavily guarded, but one night, Demetrio, along with some other wounded soldiers, weary of confinement, climbed over the walls, bent on a night's pleasure. They passed the hours in bar rooms and other places of wickedness. Then returning to the hospital drunk, they were severely reprimanded by the doctor for their bad behavior.

A little later, desiring a change from hospital life, the men again escaped over the walls. But this time Demetrio refused to accompany his mates in their visits to bar rooms and dance halls. He preferred on this occasion to be quiet and alone.

Walking slowly down Junin street, he was surprised to hear singing, and stopped to listen. He found himself outside a building with a sign over the door, "Local Evangelico" (Gospel Hall). wasn't the singing that attracted his attention so much as the words he heard, "Busca a Dios" that is, "Seek God." Demetrio had never heard such words, nor had he ever read a Book called the Bible; never had he read a tract so he stepped inside the door to listen. A gentleman requested him to take a seat, but he refused.

After the singing, a man stood up, opened a Book, and began to speak. He spoke of the "judgment of God," and stressed the fact that there was only one way to escape this judgment; that was by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ, who came from heaven and who died on the cross of Calvary to save lost sinners. He went on to say that we were all lost sinners and that if we refused to accept Christ as our Saviour, we would not escape the judgment of God, but eternal punishment would be our sentence.

The speaker, who was a missionary, said he had seen so many soldiers who were afraid to die because they were sinners. Demetrio thought to himself, Well I'm not afraid of death! Why be afraid? Had he not been a soldier, a proud fighter, wounded, but still not afraid of death?

Still the thought lingered in his mind what the speaker had said: "You cannot escape the judgment of God unless you believe on the

Lord Jesus Christ."

That night Demetrio went home to his parents at 9:15 p.m., and told them what he had heard. Never had he done such a thing as that before, and then he returned to the hospital. That was There Wednesday night. was another meeting on Friday night and Demetrio was present. The people sang another hymn,

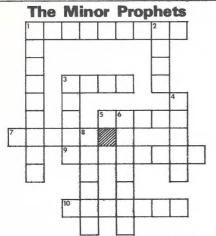
con Dios busque janarla," that is, "Peace with God, I sought to gain." This peace Demetrio did not have, but he desired it, so after the meeting he went to the speaker and talked to him. He told Demetrio again: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. He has made peace through the blood of His cross on Calvary." suddenly understood Demetrio that the Lord Jesus had been seeking him. He got down on his knees, and asked God to save him; and God did save him that night.

The next day all noticed the great change in his behavior. The doctors remarked that if he continued as he was doing, he would be well again. They even changed his medication, ordered him a new suit, and informed the hospital allow Demetrio director to attend the gospel meetings.

He got to know the missionary who had led him to Christ and looked up to him as his spiritual father and guide in his earthly pilgrimage. That was 40 years ago and Demetrio has gone on faithfully ever since.

"If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature (or creation): old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Cor.

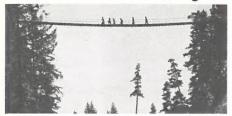
5:17.



Memorize the books of the Bible and their order so that you can readily turn to a passage of Scripture. This crossword covers the Minor Prophets, or the last 12 books of the Old Testament - from Hosea to Malachi. ACROSS:

- 1. The book before HAGGAI.
- 3. The book after HOSEA.
- 5. The book after DANIEL
- 7. The third book after AMOS.
- 9. The second book after MICAH.
- 10. The last book in the Old Testament.
- DOWN:
- 1. The book before MALACHI.
- The book after JOEL.
- The second book before NAHUM.
- 4. The book after MICAH.
- 6. The second book after JOEL.
- 8. The third book after NAHUM.

Could I Trust The Bridge



WHEN I was in the mountains once, I wanted to cross a deep gorge. There was a slender rope bridge stretched across one mountain to another; over a thousand feet below was a river. I knew that if I fell from that great height I should certainly be killed. The question was, Could I trust myself to that rope bridge?

I stood there and watched several other people go across. I saw that even heavier men than I went safely over. At last I believed that that bridge would sustain my weight. Finally I believed in it enough to trust myself to it, and

went safely across.

This illustrates what it is to believe in Jesus. It is beautifully expressed in the little hymn,

Jesus, I will trust Thee,
Trust Thee with my soul;
Weary, worn and helpless,
Thou canst make me whole.
There is none in heaven,

Nor on earth like Thee; Thou hast died for sinners, Therefore, Lord, for me.

"THE SON OF GOD, WHO LOVED ME, AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME." Gal. 2:20



Simple Searching

In Barnabas, not Paul,
In Samuel and in Saul,
In David, not in King,
Not found in Stone, but Sling.
In Jonah, not in Whale,
In Esau who did fail,
In Persians, not in Medes,

Whole: One a sinner needs.

A Dog and A Goose



AFARMER had an old dog and a pet goose. One day a fox visited the barnyard and seizing the goose, began to carry it off. But the dog chased the fox and rescued the goose.

From that time on the goose became so attached to the old dog, and loved him so, that she always stayed by the dog's house, and would scarcely leave his side. She would never go and eat with the other geese, but had to have her pan of grain by the doghouse.

Two years later the old dog got sick and stayed in his doghouse. The goose never left his side. When he died the goose continued to live in the dog house. However, she pined so much for her old friend that within a few weeks she too passed away. Wasn't she a faithful friend?

The goose loved the old dog because he had saved her life. And should not we who have been saved by our Lord Jesus Christ at such an infinite cost — the cost of His own life, redeemed by His precious blood — love Him for all He has done for us, and seek to be faithful to Him? How often we fail Him, and grieve Him, yet "He abideth faithful." 2 Tim. 2:13.

"We love Him, because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19.

"I AM THE DOOR: BY ME IF ANY MAN ENTER IN, HE SHALL BE SAVED."

John 10:9

Bible Talks



Deuteronomy 33:12

MONG all the blessings bestowed upon the tribes of Israel in this wonderful chapter Benjamin's shines as one of the brightest.

"And of Benjamin he said, The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by Him; and the Lord shall cover him all the day long, and he shall dwell between His shoulders."

How comforting and cheering these words have been to many since that day, for, like Benjamin, we are "the beloved of the Lord." Benjamin was the son of his mother Rachel's sorrow, for she passed away at his birth. None of us are very long in this world before we experience what sorrow is.

It is wonderful to have someone to love, but more wonderful to be loved. And how very comforting and precious to know that we are "beloved of the Lord." And this is our refuge — not our love for Him but His love for us. Poor Peter had to learn this through bitter experience. His boasted love for the Lord failed him in the trial. What kept Peter was the Lord's love for him.

He shall "dwell in safety by Him." Amidst dangers and foes on every hand the beloved of the Lord experiences the safety of His presence. Sheltered by the blood, "kept by the power of God," how happy and blest is he who dwells "by Him," near Him — not far off. The Father has brought us near to Himself and wants us to abide there.

"The Lord shall cover him all the day long." What a wonderful Defender and Protector we have! "If God be for us, who can be against us?" "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. . . . He shall cover thee with His feathers and under His wings shalt thou trust." Psa. 91:1,4. Feathers and wings are used in Scripture as symbols of covering and protection. The Lord will protect and preserve His people Israel through all the fearful dangers and sorrows of the coming great tribulation. "He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep." Psa. 121:4.

"All the day long" tells of His care for us not only day by day, but the whole time of our sojourn here on earth. "Behold, I am with you all the days." Matt. 28:20. J.N.D. Trans.

"And he shall dwell between His shoulders." The shoulders speak of strength, and in this we are reminded of the high priest of old who carried the names of the children of Israel engraved in the stones upon his shoulders. Our dwelling place then as the beloved of the Lord is between His shoulders of strength. Thus we are ever carried upon His bosom, near to His heart, in the place of love, and also in the place of strength.

"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Rom. 8:38,39.

Oh that we might dwell more in the hiding-place of His love until that moment when suddenly faith shall give place to sight and we shall be at home in His presence forever.

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